

COSCINOCYATHUS BORNEMANN, 1884 (ARCHAEOCYATHA):

PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES UNDER

THE PLENARY POWERS. Z.N.(S.) 1924

By Françoise Debrenne (*Institut de Paléontologie, 8 Rue de Buffon, Paris Ve, France*)

The third Colloquium on Archaeocyatha held in Moscow from February 23rd to March 1st, 1970, acting through Dr. Françoise Debrenne, referred the present case to the Commission. They request that the Commission, acting in the interest of stability and universality of nomenclature, use its plenary powers to exempt the case of *Coscinocyathus* from the application of the Code.

2. The genus *Coscinocyathus* was published by Bornemann in 1884, and in this first paper no type-species was designated.

3. *Coscinocyathus tuba* Bornemann, 1884 (: 704), one of the first species quoted in the original list, was subsequently designated as type-species of the genus by Ting, 1937 (p. 360). F. Debrenne, 1964 (p. 162), the second reviser, followed Ting's designation and chose as type specimen *tuba* no. 930, Halle Museum (Democratic Republic of Germany), figured by Bornemann in 1887 (pl. 15, fig. a, b, c).

4. When F. Debrenne had opportunity to restudy the type material, she conceded that the usual meaning of *Coscinocyathus*—corresponding to Bornemann's conception of the fossils as having simply porous walls connected by porous septa and tabulae—was wrong. The type-species, *tuba*, has a peculiar inner wall with one pore-tube instead of a porous sheet. She therefore proposed the name *Erismacoscinus* Debrenne, 1958 (type-species *maroccanus*), for the species heretofore classified as *Coscinocyathus*, except those with one pore-tube in the inner wall which have to be considered as true *Coscinocyathus*.

5. This conclusion is according to the Rules, but is not convenient for stability and universality of nomenclature. If it is followed, a well-known and world-wide genus such as *Coscinocyathus* was before the revision of *tuba*, is, after that revision, restricted to six species and less than twenty specimens, instead of more than sixty species and several hundred samples. In order to avoid such a disturbance, and to conserve a stable and universally accepted nomenclature, the third colloquium on Archaeocyatha decided to ask the Commission to annul the choice of *tuba* as type-species of *Coscinocyathus*, and to accept *dianthus* Bornemann, 1884 (: 704), with type specimen no. An 597 Halle Museum, as the new type-species. The species *dianthus* was figured in 1887, pl. XXXI, fig. 5, and is one of the species first included in the genus by Bornemann. If this proposal is accepted, *Erismacoscinus* Debrenne will become a junior synonym of *Coscinocyathus*, and the species which have an inner wall with one pore tube would be placed in a new genus *Tubicoscinus* Debrenne, type-species *tuba* Bornemann.

6. The International Commission is therefore requested:

(1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all designations of type-species for

the genus *Coscinocyathus* Bornemann, 1884, made prior to the Ruling now requested, and, having done so, to designate *Coscinocyathus dianthus* Bornemann, 1884, to be the type-species of that genus;

- (2) to place the generic name *Coscinocyathus* Bornemann, 1884 (gender: masculine), type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) above, *Coscinocyathus dianthus* Bornemann, 1884, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name *dianthus* Bornemann, 1884, as published in the binomen *Coscinocyathus dianthus* (type-species of *Coscinocyathus* Bornemann, 1884) on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

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